

STATE OF ILLINOIS



HOUSE JOURNAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

105TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006

12:00 O'CLOCK NOON

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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105th Legislative Day**

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The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Representative Turner in the chair.

Prayer by Reverend Elmer Wilson with the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Kankakee, Illinois.

Representative Joseph Lyons led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

By direction of the Speaker, a roll call was taken to ascertain the attendance of Members, as follows:

110 present. (ROLL CALL 1)

By unanimous consent, Representatives Richard Bradley, Chavez, Jones, Lindner, Meyer, Patterson and Watson were excused from attendance.

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative Osmond will replace Representative Myers in the Committee on State Government Administration for today only.

Representative Lang will replace Representative Chavez in the Committee on State Government Administration for today only.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

TO: Clerk Office

FROM: Barbra Lowe

DATE: March 15, 2006

RE: March 14, 2006 Quorum

Please remove Richard Bradley from the quorum on Tuesday, March 14, 2006. He was recorded in error.

Please call me at 782-8117 if you have any questions.

Thank You.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by

Ms. Hawker, Secretary:

Mr. Speaker -- I am directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate has concurred with the House in the passage of bills of the following titles to-wit:

HOUSE BILL NO. 3183

A bill for AN ACT concerning local government.

HOUSE BILL NO. 4349

A bill for AN ACT concerning local government.

HOUSE BILL NO. 4462

A bill for AN ACT concerning safety.

Passed by the Senate, March 15, 2006.

Linda Hawker, Secretary of the Senate

A message from the Senate by

Ms. Hawker, Secretary:

Mr. Speaker -- I am directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title, in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the House of Representatives, to-wit:

SENATE BILL NO. 2369

A bill for AN ACT concerning revenue.

Passed by the Senate, March 2, 2006.

Linda Hawker, Secretary of the Senate

The foregoing SENATE BILL 2369 was ordered printed and to a First Reading.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Delgado, Chairperson, from the Committee on Human Services to which the following were referred, action taken earlier today, and reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILLS 2326, 2455, 2578, 2782, 2913 and 2936.

That the bill be reported "do pass as amended" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILL 2483.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bills 2326, 2455, 2483, 2578, 2782, 2913 and 2936 is as follows:

9, Yeas; 0, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Delgado, William(D), Chairperson

Y Bellock, Patricia(R), Republican Spokesperson

Y Collins, Annazette(D)

A Cultra, Shane(R)

Y Flowers, Mary(D)

Y Jakobsson, Naomi(D)

Y Rita, Robert(D), Vice-Chairperson

A Chavez, Michelle(D)

Y Coulson, Elizabeth(R)

A Dunn, Joe(R)

Y Howard, Constance(D)

Y Jenisch, Roger(R)

Representative Scully, Chairperson, from the Committee on Electric Utility Oversight to which the following were referred, action taken earlier today, and reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported "do pass as amended" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILL 1705.

The committee roll call vote on House Bill 1705 is as follows:

8, Yeas; 0, Nays; 4, Answering Present.

Y Scully, George(D), Chairperson

P Krause, Carolyn(R), Republican Spokesperson

Y Franks, Jack(D)

Y Granberg, Kurt(D) (Smith)

A Myers, Richard(R)

Y Phelps, Brandon(D)

A Sullivan, Ed(R)

Y Verschoore, Patrick(D), Vice-Chairperson

Y D'Amico, John(D)

P Froehlich, Paul(R)

Y Mitchell, Bill(R)

Y Patterson, Milton(D) (Lyons)

P Stephens, Ron(R)

P Tenhouse, Art(R)

Representative Giles, Chairperson, from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education to which the following were referred, action taken earlier today, and reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILLS 2546 and 2882.

That the bill be reported “do pass” and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Standard Debate:
SENATE BILL 2191.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2191 is as follows:

11, Yeas; 10, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Giles, Calvin(D), Chairperson	Y Davis, Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
N Mitchell, Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson	N Bassi, Suzanne(R)
Y Beiser, Daniel(D)	Y Chapa LaVia, Linda(D)
Y Colvin, Marlow(D) (Yarbrough)	Y Dugan, Lisa(D)
N Eddy, Roger(R)	Y Flider, Robert(D)
Y Joyce, Kevin(D) (Soto)	Y Miller, David(D)
N Moffitt, Donald(R)	N Mulligan, Rosemary(R)
N Munson, Ruth(R)	Y Osterman, Harry(D)
N Pihos, Sandra(R)	N Pritchard, Robert(R)
N Reis, David(R)	Y Smith, Michael(D)
N Watson, Jim(R) (Black)	

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2546 is as follows:

12, Yeas; 5, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Giles, Calvin(D), Chairperson	Y Davis, Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
Y Mitchell, Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson	A Bassi, Suzanne(R)
Y Beiser, Daniel(D)	Y Chapa LaVia, Linda(D)
A Colvin, Marlow(D)	Y Dugan, Lisa(D)
N Eddy, Roger(R)	Y Flider, Robert(D)
A Joyce, Kevin(D)	Y Miller, David(D)
Y Moffitt, Donald(R)	A Mulligan, Rosemary(R)
Y Munson, Ruth(R)	Y Osterman, Harry(D)
N Pihos, Sandra(R)	N Pritchard, Robert(R)
N Reis, David(R)	Y Smith, Michael(D)
N Watson, Jim(R) (Black)	

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2882 is as follows:

17, Yeas; 1, Nays; 2, Answering Present.

Y Giles, Calvin(D), Chairperson	Y Davis, Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
Y Mitchell, Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson	Y Bassi, Suzanne(R)
Y Beiser, Daniel(D)	Y Chapa LaVia, Linda(D)
Y Colvin, Marlow(D) (Yarbrough)	Y Dugan, Lisa(D)
P Eddy, Roger(R)	Y Flider, Robert(D)
Y Joyce, Kevin(D) (Soto)	Y Miller, David(D)
Y Moffitt, Donald(R)	Y Mulligan, Rosemary(R)
Y Munson, Ruth(R)	Y Osterman, Harry(D)
P Pihos, Sandra(R)	Y Pritchard, Robert(R)
A Reis, David(R)	Y Smith, Michael(D)
N Watson, Jim(R) (Black)	

Representative Burke, Chairperson, from the Committee on Executive to which the following were referred, action taken earlier today, and reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported “do pass” and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate:
SENATE BILLS 2255 and 2445.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2255 is as follows:

11, Yeas; 1, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Burke, Daniel(D), Chairperson	Y Lyons, Joseph(D), Vice-Chairperson
N Kosel, Renee(R), Republican Spokesperson	Y Acevedo, Edward(D)

Y Berrios,Maria(D)	Y Biggins,Bob(R)
Y Bradley,Richard(D) (Rita)	Y Hassert,Brent(R)
Y Jones,Lovana(D) (Feigenholtz)	Y McKeon,Larry(D)
Y Meyer,James(R) (Beaubien)	Y Molaro,Robert(D)
A Saviano,Angelo(R)	

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2445 is as follows:

8, Yeas; 4, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Burke,Daniel(D), Chairperson	Y Lyons,Joseph(D), Vice-Chairperson
N Kosel,Renee(R), Republican Spokesperson	Y Acevedo,Edward(D)
Y Berrios,Maria(D)	N Biggins,Bob(R)
Y Bradley,Richard(D) (Rita)	N Hassert,Brent(R)
Y Jones,Lovana(D) (Feigenholtz)	Y McKeon,Larry(D)
N Meyer,James(R) (Beaubien)	Y Molaro,Robert(D)
A Saviano,Angelo(R)	

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed in the Committee on Rules.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 989

Offered by Representative Pihos:

WHEREAS, There are too many children who have suffered because their parents have not met their child support obligations; and

WHEREAS, To facilitate the delivery of child support to children in significant need, the General Assembly passed the Expedited Child Support Act of 1990; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of Illinois on April 1, 1992, adopted rules designated "Implementation of the Expedited Child Support System" pursuant to the Expedited Child Support Act of 1990, and the Court amended those Rules effective April 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, 86% of custodial parents throughout the United States who were due child support under a court order did not receive all of the child support that was due; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has received numerous constituent concerns about delays, dilatory tactics, continuances in child support cases and, in their view, the infrequent exercise of the court's authority to find non-custodial parents with unpaid support obligations in contempt or to impose jail time as a means of enforcement of child support orders; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that the receipt of child support has positive effects on children's cognitive and behavioral performance, regardless of the family's income or other socioeconomic characteristics; and

WHEREAS, Many poor families rely on child support for over 25% of their income and thus children in families with low incomes may especially benefit from the protective effects that child support can have against poverty; and

WHEREAS, Child support benefits all types of families, and the receipt of child support is positively related to child outcomes such as educational attainment, school behavior, and access to health care and nutrition; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that when a parent pays child support, the child has fewer behavior problems, makes better grades, and stays in school longer than do children who are the victims of non-support; and

WHEREAS, Payment of child support by a noncustodial parent is positively related to contact with the child, a sense of involvement in the child's upbringing, and a positive relationship with the resident parent; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of Illinois recognized the importance of prompt decisions in child support proceedings and included specific deadlines in the rules that implemented the expedited child support system; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL

ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we respectfully urge the Supreme Court of Illinois to consider in child support cases the scheduling of cases, treatment of litigants, and nature of orders entered during proceedings to establish or modify child support or to determine child support arrearages and the means by which the noncustodial parent, the obligor, will pay the arrearages; this consideration could include the effects that court orders have on children who have not had the benefit of the full amount of child support; requests by the obligor or the obligor's counsel to continue the proceedings to another time; delays that occur due to acts or omissions of the obligor or obligor's counsel; or pleas from the obligor or the obligor's counsel that the court not find the obligor in contempt or impose any jail term for any failure by the obligor to pay child support; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we respectfully urge the Supreme Court of Illinois and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts to consider an assessment of parent litigant concerns about child support proceedings, including a review of:

(a) the length of time that a child support case takes from the initial pleading to the date of the court's determination of that issue;

(b) the range, frequency, and appropriateness of the rulings by circuit courts when an obligor appears on a rule to show cause for non-payment of child support;

(c) the means by which the circuit courts and circuit court clerks process and schedule child support cases;

(d) the innovative means utilized by some circuit courts to avoid delays in child support cases, including expedited scheduling;

(e) possible modifications or additions to the Supreme Court Rules concerning child support that might address this issue; and

(f) possible enhancements to educational programs concerning child support cases provided by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts be furnished with suitable copies of this resolution.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 995

Offered by Representative Granberg:

WHEREAS, Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Illinois, established in 1990, is dedicated exclusively to the prevention of child abuse and neglect; its programs contribute to strong, healthy families by: helping to prepare and support parents so that they can better care for their children; educating parents, grandparents, neighbors, babysitters, and others about situations that can be harmful to children; and raising concern among all citizens -- "we are all responsible for protecting our nation's children"; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois has 2 main advocacy priorities for Illinois in 2006; the first of these is to continue to build the Healthy Families Illinois Program across the State; Healthy Families Illinois (HFI) is a voluntary program of intensive home visiting to support parents of newborns and to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect; it is modeled after Healthy Families America, a national initiative of Prevent Child Abuse America; its goals are to promote positive parenting, to encourage child health and development, and to prevent child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Begun in 1997 with State funding, HFI grew to an \$11 million statewide program in 51 different communities serving over 3,000 families annually by 2001; there has been no additional funding since 2001, and the program has not been able to grow toward serving the thousands more needing its services; PCA Illinois' vision is to see this program reach full scale in Illinois through incremental growth every year; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois' second advocacy priority for Illinois in 2006 is to address the methamphetamine problem in Illinois in partnership with the various State agencies and coalitions working on it; and

WHEREAS, Methamphetamine ("meth") has become the major drug problem in rural Illinois and has more serious implications for harm to children than any other drug; children are affected by its incapacitating effects on their parents and caretakers and by the risk of harm in its manufacture and sales; it is now specifically addressed in the Illinois Juvenile Court Act of 1986 within the definition of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois has worked in partnership with State agencies and with community groups to

help address this problem through public awareness, education, training, and support for legislative measures; several legislative responses have already been made; the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act, which took effect January 11th, includes stronger deterrents to meth manufacture in homes where children reside or in multi-unit dwellings where other tenants, including families and children, would be put at risk; other recent legislation restricts access to products containing key meth ingredients ephedrine and pseudoephedrine; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois also supports keys issues raised by one of its child advocacy partners, Voices for Illinois Children, including: the Early Learning Illinois effort to improve and expand preschool opportunities for young children; the Children's Mental Health Partnership to strengthen children's mental, social, and emotional health; and the A+ Illinois Campaign to reform school funding and improve the adequacy and fairness of education; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, PCA Illinois will work with the Illinois Association of Court Appointed Special Advocates to secure \$1 million in funding to improve and expand the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program to serve more of our State's most vulnerable children; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) are trained volunteers who serve as advocates for children in the court system interacting with the child and providing information in the child's best interest directly to the court; operating under careful guidelines established by National CASA for an intensive and ongoing commitment to the child, volunteers in Illinois served over 4,200 children last year; the actual need is more than six times that number; and

WHEREAS, A Child Abuse Prevention Month Media Conference Launch and Awards Ceremony is planned for April 3, 2006 in the State Capitol rotunda at Springfield; simultaneous launches will be held in Chicago and in southern Illinois; PCA Illinois, in collaboration with the Department of Children and Family Services, has planned a statewide calendar of events in connection with the prevention of child abuse and neglect for the month of April; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we proclaim April 2006 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Illinois and urge organizations throughout the State to take steps to increase local and statewide visibility of Child Abuse Prevention Month activities.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 998

Offered by Representative John Bradley:

WHEREAS, The illegal manufacture and use of methamphetamine is a severe problem in this State, especially in downstate Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly has enacted numerous pieces of legislation that impose stronger penalties for the manufacture or possession of methamphetamine and that make it more difficult to obtain ingredients for the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine, such as the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act and the Methamphetamine Precursor Control Act; and

WHEREAS, The proposed federal budget for 2007 could result in the reduction of \$13,000,000 available to our State for methamphetamine law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, The major reductions would be to the COPS program and to the Byrne Justice Assistance grants that give money to local police departments to pay for more officers and help provide equipment such as police radios and computer systems; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Byrne grants helped Illinois police make 1,267 methamphetamine-related arrests and seize 348,923 grams of methamphetamine; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the federal government to reinstate the funding for methamphetamine enforcement, including the COPS program and the Byrne Justice Assistance grants; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, and to each member of the Illinois Congressional delegation.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1004

Offered by Representative Howard:

WHEREAS, The Illinois Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority are sponsoring their eighth annual legislative visit to the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., was founded in 1908 as the first sorority established by African-American college women; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha is an international organization with over 200,000 undergraduate and alumnae members; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha itself is an organization with a commitment to promoting education, healthy minds and bodies, family unity, economic development, political empowerment, cultural heritage, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha members who have distinguished themselves individually include Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, Hazel O'Leary, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Ella Fitzgerald, Phylicia Rashad, Zina Garrison, Jane Addams, Marlan Anderson, Margaret Burroughs, Cardiss Collins, Bettiann Gardner, Marla Gibbs, Gladys Knight, Constance Baker Motley, Jessye Norman, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Alicia Keys, and Illinoisan Linda White, international president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the members of this Body, in recognition of the achievements of the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the values for which they strive, do proclaim Wednesday, March 29, 2006, as the Eighth Annual Alpha Kappa Alpha Day throughout the State of Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Linda White, international president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1005

Offered by Representative Jerry Mitchell:

WHEREAS, The Illinois Standards Achievement Test, which scores are critical to Illinois' compliance with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, is being delivered late to school districts across Illinois and with incomplete or incorrect testing documents; and

WHEREAS, The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires all states to measure each public school's and district's achievement and establish annual achievement targets for the state to show adequate yearly progress; and

WHEREAS, Adequate yearly progress calculations in Illinois are now based on three factors: (1) the percentage of reading and mathematics scores that meet or exceed standards, compared to the annual State targets; (2) the participation rate of students in taking the State tests, which must meet or exceed 95%; and (3) the attendance rates of students in elementary and middle schools and the graduation rates of students in high schools, which must meet or exceed the State's annual targets; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Standards Achievement Test is scheduled to be administered in all school districts between March 6 and March 24 for students in grades 3 through 8 in reading and mathematics and for students in grades 4 and 7 in science; and

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education entered into a new contract with assessment vendor Harcourt Assessment, Inc. in 2005 to administer the standardized test for the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Harcourt Assessment, Inc. has not adequately performed its contractual duties for the State of Illinois, jeopardizing the validity of the State standardized test because of multiple problems with timely delivery and the accuracy of testing documents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we request the State Superintendent of Education to attend a joint hearing of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and the House Elementary and Secondary Education Appropriation Committee to (1) produce the RFP request, with all subsequent responses from interested parties, e-mails, correspondence, and all other information concerning the procurement of Harcourt Assessment, Inc.; (2) outline how the contract with Harcourt Assessment, Inc. was derived; (3) explain all provisions of the contract, in conjunction with the State Board

of Education's expectations for compliance with contractual duties; (4) explain why the State Board of Education was not aware of Harcourt Assessment, Inc.'s inability to perform its contractual duties; and (5) explain how the multiple problems with the delivery of tests and the accuracy of testing documents put the 2006 standardized testing in jeopardy of being invalid; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Speaker of the House, the members of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee, the members of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Appropriation Committee, the members of the State Board of Education, and the State Superintendent of Education.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1006

Offered by Representative Cross:

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Homeowners Association Task Force is created to examine issues concerning homeowners associations; the Task Force shall consist of seven members appointed as follows: two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a co-chairperson; two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a co-chairperson; one person from an association that represents the Illinois legal community; one person from an association that represents realtors; and one person from an association that represents home builders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall meet on two separate occasions between May 2006 and July 2006 with the purpose of drafting a bill to create a homeowners' association act to be presented to the General Assembly.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 107

Offered by Representative Howard:

WHEREAS, Changes over the past several decades in federal and state laws defining crimes, prescribing sentences for crimes, prescribing and limiting services and treatment for persons incarcerated for crimes, and setting conditions and services post-release from prison or jail have resulted in staggering increases in the numbers of persons with past criminal convictions; and

WHEREAS, Between 1970 and 2001, the Illinois prison population increased by more than 500 percent, from 7,326 to 44,348; and

WHEREAS, Nationwide, over 650,000 men and women, a figure larger than the entire population of Boston or Washington, DC, will be released from state and federal confinements in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 244,000 men and women are currently under correctional supervision in Illinois, including those in jail, in prison, on probation, and on parole; and

WHEREAS, Almost all - between 95 and 97 percent - of those who are incarcerated or detained in the United States will serve their time and come home; and

WHEREAS, Over the past several decades enactment of and changes to federal and state laws limiting opportunities for employment, as well as education, housing, public assistance, and other aspects of civil life, for persons with criminal convictions have resulted in high barriers to those persons' success in society after they have served the sentences for their convictions; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich convened the Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley convened the Mayoral Policy Caucus on Prisoner Reentry to study prisoner reentry, and the reports and recommendations from those groups are becoming available in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Barriers to employment and job promotion for persons with criminal convictions are extremely complex issues, involving, among others, public employers at all levels of government, private employers, labor organizations, education and training institutions, public safety officials, public and private licensing and certification bodies, insurers, employment placement agencies, custodians of and users of arrest and conviction records, drug treatment agencies, and persons with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, A thorough examination of the barriers to employment for people with criminal conviction

records and a thorough study of ways in which such barriers could be lowered or eliminated without exposing employers, individuals, the general public, or property to unreasonable risk is warranted; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is hereby established a Legislative Task Force on Employment of Persons with Past Criminal Convictions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall have the following members:

12 voting members, as follows: 3 members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, 3 members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, 3 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and 3 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Minority Leader; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all actions of the Task Force require the affirmative vote of at least 7 voting members; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following persons shall serve without compensation as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Task Force:

(A) The Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections, or his or her designee;

(B) The Director of the Illinois Department of Employment Security, or his or her designee;

(C) The Secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services, or his or her designee;

(D) The Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, or his or her designee;

(E) The Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, or his or her designee; and

(F) The Chairman of the Illinois Human Rights Commission, or his or her designee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the voting members of the Task Force shall select a chairperson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall conduct public hearings and examine the barriers faced by persons with past criminal convictions with respect to obtaining employment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall evaluate those recommendations made by the Governor's Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly in a final report which shall be filed on or before October 31, 2006; the requirement for reporting to the General Assembly shall be satisfied by filing copies of the report with the Speaker, the Minority Leader and the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the President, the Minority Leader and the Secretary of the Senate and the Legislative Research Unit, as required by Section 3.1 of the General Assembly Organization Act, and filing additional copies with the State Government Report Distribution Center for the General Assembly as required under paragraph (t) of Section 7 of the State Library Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the report shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(1) An assessment of those collateral consequences of a criminal conviction which impede employment of persons with past criminal convictions, and the experiences of other states in addressing this issue;

(2) An assessment of the preparation for gainful employment provided to those incarcerated in Illinois correctional facilities, and the experiences of other states in addressing this issue;

(3) An identification of the barriers which impede those with criminal records from obtaining stable employment; and

(4) Recommendations for legislative changes necessary to facilitate the employment of persons with past criminal convictions which, if implemented, would not expose the employer, an individual, the general public, or property to unreasonable risks; and be it further

RESOLVED, That within 60 days after the filing of the report, the appropriate standing committees of both the House and the Senate shall hold hearings to consider the recommendations made by the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the ex-officio members of the Task Force.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 108

Offered by Representative Pihos:

WHEREAS, In the 2004-2005 school year, over 321,000 children with disabilities were served in special education programs across Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The number of children in special education programs has risen 12% in the last 5 years alone, and special education accounts for approximately 21% of all education spending; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has established a goal of reimbursing 40% of the costs of special education incurred by school districts, but it currently provides only 18% of costs nationally and only 14% in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has failed for decades to update reimbursement rates for special education costs, with the last reimbursement rate set in 1973 for special education orphanage tuition, in 1985 for special education personnel, in 1978 for special education private tuition, in 1976 for special education summer school, and in 1965 for special education transportation; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has continued to prorate special education mandated categoricals at less than 100%, with the FY06 budget prorating these mandated categoricals at 97%; and

WHEREAS, Even if Illinois fully funded mandated categoricals at 100%, this would still only represent partial funding, as the reimbursement rates are severely outdated; and

WHEREAS, Illinois school districts currently spend an estimated \$1 billion from their own general education funds to meet the unreimbursed costs of special education services that are mandated by federal and State laws and administrative rules; and

WHEREAS, Special education continues to represent a growing financial burden on school districts as the need for services increases while State and federal funding fails to increase along with that need; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that a task force shall be created to study current special education funding needs and to make recommendations as to how the State can increase special education funding and ease the financial burden on school districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall consist of the State Superintendent of Education (or his or her designee) plus 16 members appointed as follows: the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader shall each appoint one representative, the Senate President and the Senate Minority Leader shall each appoint one senator, and these 4 leaders shall each appoint 3 public members representing the interests of special education administrators and services, school districts, and disability advocates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be transmitted to the State Superintendent of Education.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING

Having been printed, the following bills were taken up, read by title a first time and placed in the Committee on Rules: SENATE BILLS 880, 1085, 2358 and 2369.

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed on the Calendar on the order of Agreed Resolutions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 987

Offered by Representative Hamos:

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor the accomplishments of residents of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Speed skater Shani Davis won a gold medal in the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics; he finished the Men's 1000 meter speed skating race in 1:08.89 minutes, 0.27 seconds ahead of his closest competitor and ahead of 40 other athletes; and

WHEREAS, Shani Davis became the first African-American man to claim a gold medal in Winter Olympic history; and

WHEREAS, Shani Davis was born on August 13, 1982 on the south side of Chicago to Cherie Davis and began his remarkable career at age two and a half when his mother took him roller skating at a neighborhood rink; and

WHEREAS, Cherie Davis moved her family to the north side Rogers Park neighborhood when Shani was ten years old so that Shani could sharpen his skating skills in the Evanston Speedskating Club at Evanston's Robert Crown Community Center; and

WHEREAS, The success of Shani Davis is a testament to community support and especially to the motivation and sacrifice of Cherie Davis; and

WHEREAS, Shani Davis has a distinguished record, winning five National Age Group Speedskating Championships in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000, and 2003; the North American Championship in 1999; the 2002 Junior Country Match; the 2002 Junior World Championships; his third straight U.S. Long Track Championship during the 2004-2005 season; and the 2005 World Allround Championship; he also set the World Record for Men's 1000 meter speed skating on November 20, 2005 at the Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating at Salt Lake City; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Shani Davis on achieving the greatest athletic accomplishment of winning an Olympic gold medal, while shattering records and crossing racial divides; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Shani Davis as an expression of our esteem and with our best wishes for continued success in the future.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 988

Offered by Representative Daniels:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois offer our sincere congratulations to Frank and Verna Clayton on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Frank and Verna were married on February 4, 1956; they are the proud parents of two children, Valerie Euneman and Barry Clayton, the grandparents of five grandchildren, Jason, Kara, and Kristi Euneman and Alexandra and Matthew Clayton, and the great-grandparents of two great-grandchildren, Julien and Deshawn; and

WHEREAS, The honorable Verna Clayton served the Illinois General Assembly as a State Representative for three consecutive terms, representing the Buffalo Grove area; prior to being elected to the General Assembly, she served as the Buffalo Grove Village Clerk from 1971 to 1979 and was elected Buffalo Grove Village President, a position she held from 1979 to 1991; and

WHEREAS, The Clayton family shared Verna's wisdom, kindness, and love with the General Assembly during her tenure; because of the family's sacrifice, Verna was able to become the Minority Spokesperson for the Elections and State Government Committee, as well as the Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Frank served in the United States Navy as a 2nd class petty officer from 1951 to 1954; he received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Oklahoma University; and

WHEREAS, Frank worked for Western Electric and Honeywell before joining Torkelson Associates where he became the Executive Vice President; he also donated his time and energy to the community by serving on the Illinois District 96 School Board from 1971 to 1974 and the Illinois District 125 School Board from 1974 to 1980, where he also served as President from 1978-1980, and by serving as Highway Commissioner for Vernon Township from 1996 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, Even after retiring and moving to Savannah Lakes Village in McCormick, South Carolina, both Frank and Verna remained active in their community working with the Savannah Lakes Property Owners Association, McCormick County Children's Home for at risk children, Thurmond Lake Power Squadron, and Squadron Development; and

WHEREAS, The Claytons have mastered the elements that encompass a healthy relationship; fifty years

of marriage have not dimmed their love as they remain committed to one another and their family; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the fifty years of love and happiness and the anniversary that commemorates the marriage of Frank and Verna and we do hereby offer our congratulations to Frank and Verna Clayton on such occasion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Claytons as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 990

Offered by Representative Kelly:

WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Faye E. Terrell-Perkins has been appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to serve on the Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Board; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Terrell-Perkins is senior executive director of the Chicago Leadership Academies for Supporting Success which provides professional development opportunities for administrators of the Chicago Public Schools at all stages from the aspiring to the veteran; she was formerly Executive Director of the Leadership Academy and Urban Network for Chicago (LAUNCH), the program that prepares aspiring principals for Chicago Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, She is a Certified Professional Developer and a National Staff Development Council Academy XIV Graduate; in 2000, she was named a Principal-in-Residence for the Corner School Development Program at Yale University; for six years, she was an elementary school principal; prior to that time, she held administrative positions at the school and central office level; and

WHEREAS, She holds a Masters of Arts in Education and was a doctoral candidate in curriculum and instruction at the University of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The MCLE Board was created by the Illinois Supreme Court, with enumerated powers and duties, to administer the new rules for Minimum Continuing Legal Education in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Terrell-Perkins is the only non-attorney appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to the MCLE Board; her appointment is being acknowledged at a luncheon on Sunday, March 12, 2006; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Faye E. Terrell-Perkins on her appointment by the Illinois Supreme Court to serve on the Minimum Continuing Legal Education Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to her as an expression of our respect and esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 992

Offered by Representative Eddy:

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to recognize milestone events in the lives of the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Agnes Dale (Manning) Smith was born on April 2, 1906, in Willow Hill to Elisha and Mary E. (Crail) Manning; after her mother died when she was 8, she joined the household of foster parents, Paul B. and Emily Harper; and

WHEREAS, On October 16, 1930, she married Victor L. Smith and together they had a daughter, Emily Carol; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith graduated from Robinson High School as part of the class of 1925; she ranked third in her class out of 72 students; she was vice president of her senior class and on the staff of News 'N' Everything, the student newspaper; and

WHEREAS, In 1967, she graduated from Vincennes University with an Associate in Science degree; she later went to Eastern Illinois University, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1984; she also studied at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, in 1969; at American University in Washington, D.C., and at

4 other Midwestern locations, including Lincoln Trail College in Robinson; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith began her career at Argus Printing House, which was founded by Paul Harper's father, George W.; she joined the office following high school as a bookkeeper and society editor; in 1945, she and her husband became co-owners of the Argus Printing House, upon the retirement of Paul Harper; the Smiths retired in 1986, when their daughter and son-in-law took over operations of the paper; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith has been very active in her community; she has been a member of many organizations including the Robinson Woman's Club; Robinson Minerva Club; Crawford County Republican Women; Pre-School Mothers Club in 1935; Delta Theta Tau Sorority; James Halstead, Sr., Chapter NSDAR; and Chapter I.G.P.E.O.; and

WHEREAS, She has been given many awards for her service, including Good Citizenship, Dale Carnegie Crawford County Alumni; Distinguished Citizen for 1987, Robinson Chamber of Commerce; and the Robinson High School Alumni of the Year 2003; in addition, she has been honored by the Pre-School Mothers on the 55th anniversary, 1991, and the RHS Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith has had some very unique and interesting experiences in her life; while in Ireland, she was able to take a side trip to Wales to witness the investiture of Prince Charles, heir to the British throne; accompanied by her husband, who was the State chairman for 13 years, she attended four Republican National Conventions; she was appointed as the Volunteer Service Director by Mayor Crebs during World War II and was called to Chicago 3 times to attend conferences; she was the delegate at the 1930 Delta Theta Tau philanthropic sorority convention, where she was elected national vice president; and she served 2 years as the Division VI Director for the Illinois Daughters of the Revolution; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Agnes Dale Smith on the occasion of her 100th birthday and wish her many more happy years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Agnes Dale Smith as an expression of our esteem and with our heartfelt best wishes.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 993

Offered by Representative Eddy:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of Ola Marie Bundy of Normal on Saturday, February 18, 2006; and

WHEREAS, She was born on August 4, 1935, on a farm in Allerton to Ervin Stanley and Marie Magdalena Rohl Bundy; she was a 1953 graduate of Champaign High School, where she was involved in various GAA activities, sang in the chorus, served as vice president of the senior class, and was editor of the school yearbook; she went on to graduate from the University of Illinois, where she majored in physical education and was awarded a letter for her participation in the school's athletic teams; she later did postgraduate work at the U of I and at Northern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS, After college, Ms. Bundy taught high school for eight and a half years at Grant Park, Thornton Fractional South, and her alma mater in Champaign, before joining the Illinois High School Association; and

WHEREAS, In 1967, she joined the Illinois High School Association as an assistant executive director in charge of girls athletics; after Title IX was passed in 1972, the IHSA established several state tournaments for girls, and Ms. Bundy was in charge of all of them; throughout her career at IHSA, she provided uncompromising leadership for girls athletic programs in Illinois and across the nation; she wrote the IHSA's affirmative action policy for girls playing in boys state series and helped write the Illinois State Board of Education's sex equity rules that served as the model for many other states; in 1993 she testified at a Congressional hearing on girls athletic participation; and

WHEREAS, During her 29-year career with IHSA, she shepherded girls athletics from the early days of GAA and postal tournaments to a full-scale, 12-sport, interscholastic state tournament lineup that was every bit the equivalent of boys programs; many times it was only by the sheer force of her personality that she was able to persuade high school administrators to give girls athletics a fair shake; and

WHEREAS, She had the distinction of being the first person inducted into the Illinois Girls Coaches Association Hall of Fame; she was a member of the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, a member of the Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame, and a member of Champaign Central High School's Hall of Fame; she was inducted into the National Federation Hall of Fame in 1996 for her national leadership in the

rise of girls interscholastic athletic programs; she also received special recognition for her work from the Illinois Swimming Association, the Illinois High School Girls Gymnastics Coaches Association, the United States Volleyball Association, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the National Association for Girls and Women's Sports; she served on the U.S. Olympic Women's Volleyball Committee for the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games; and she also received the prestigious Woman of Distinction in Education award; and

WHEREAS, She enjoyed working with the schools and student-athletes; she took great pride in providing equitable opportunities for the boys and girls sports programs in Illinois and was a great leader and role model; she loved to travel, read, play golf, work crossword and sudoku puzzles, and visit with family and friends; she was a vocal supporter of IHSA, ISU, U of I, and Cubs sports events; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Ola Marie Bundy has been deeply felt by many, especially her brothers, Stanley Eugene (Jan) Bundy and Ervin Caleb (Diane) Bundy; her sisters, Dr. Janet Kjestene Bundy and Esther Yvonne (Larry) Lutz; and her many close nieces and nephews as well as many wonderful friends; she was preceded in death by her parents and her infant sister, Alma Jean; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Ola Marie Bundy, and we extend our deepest sympathy to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to her family as an expression of our sincerest condolences.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 994

Offered by Representative Granberg:

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to recognize academic achievements by students in the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that several fifth grade student from grade schools in Marion County competed in a poster contest sponsored by the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District; and

WHEREAS, Arisa Noda of Selmaville Grade School won first place in the contest; Cole Armstrong from South Central Grade School won second place; and Alexandra Webster from Iuka Grade School won third place; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the winners of the fifth grade poster contest on their recent awards; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each winner and to the Principal of Selmaville Grade School, the Principal of South Central Grade School, and the Principal of Iuka Grade School with our heartfelt congratulations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 996

Offered by Representative Feigenholtz:

WHEREAS, Kevin Bell has served the Lincoln Park Zoo since 1976, when, at the age of 23, he was hired as curator of birds for the zoo and became the youngest curator in Lincoln Park Zoo's history; though young, Mr. Bell came to the zoo with impressive experience having served as a keeper at the Bronx Zoo, a zoo he was very familiar with as he grew up on the zoo's ground, his father Joseph having served as Director of the Department of Ornithology for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Since arriving at Lincoln Park Zoo, Mr. Bell has moved up the ranks to Assistant Director in 1993, and in the same year he was named Director; in 1995, he also became President and CEO of The Lincoln Park Zoological Society; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell has been a steadfast supporter of natural preservation and conservation throughout the world; he has traveled the globe to Africa, Central America, Iceland, and the Pacific to help develop understanding and programs to protect vulnerable species; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Park Zoo is one of Chicago's finest cultural and scientific institutions; open 365 days a year, the Lincoln Park Zoo offers the over 3,000,000 visitors a year free access to over 1,200

animals representing 230 species; none of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of Kevin Bell; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Kevin J. Bell on 30 years of service to Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, and we thank him for his devotion the Zoo; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Bell as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 997

Offered by Representative Poe:

WHEREAS, In response to a series of violent acts in Springfield, the Reverend Lee Fields, Jr., senior pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Springfield, organized a "Stop the Violence" march, held on February 6, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Hope and faith were the overall messages of the march, and the need for each citizen to take responsibility for stopping the violence in their own home was highlighted; and

WHEREAS, The event included speeches from students, clergy, State lawmakers, and community leaders; the mayor, police chief, aldermen, and other city and State officials also attended; and

WHEREAS, Participants gathered in more than 200 vehicles at Southeast High School then drove together to Fourth Street and Capitol Avenue to walk to the east steps of the Capitol for a prayer and candlelight vigil; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Fields talked about people taking charge of their own children and the importance of teaching self-respect and not blaming the problems of youth on their schools; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Reverend Lee Fields, Jr., for his community leadership in heightening public awareness to the growing violence in his community by organizing a "Stop the Violence" march; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Fields as an expression of our gratitude for his involvement in the community.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 999

Offered by Representative Cross:

WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Pastor Thomas Hudson Cross Jr. is retiring from his position as minister of First United Methodist Church in Elmhurst; and

WHEREAS, He has been an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church for 45 years, serving at several churches, including First Methodist in Huntsville, Alabama; Rainbow City United Methodist in Gadsden, Alabama; Five Points United Methodist in Jasper, Alabama; West Pullman United Methodist in Chicago; Julia Gay United Methodist in Chicago; Yorkville-Millbrook United Methodist; Friendship United Methodist Church of Bolingbrook; First United Methodist Church of Oak Park; and finally at First United Methodist Church of Elmhurst; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure in the United Methodist Church, he has fought discrimination in every form with great determination, preached sermons of the highest quality that challenged congregations to think and act, and cared for those in need in his congregations; and

WHEREAS, He has provided vision for churches he has served, enabling them to envision all that they could be; he has encouraged lay leadership, initiated endowment funds to support the financial work of the church, and tithed religiously to the church; he has recognized the work of individuals and groups who gave of their time and talents to the church and shared his never-ending supply of jokes, many of which were really funny; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Cross is the husband of Ruth Cross; the father of State Representative and House Minority Leader Tom Cross (wife Genie), Brad Cross, Scott Cross (wife Margaret), and Kennedy Cross (wife Diane); and the proud grandfather of Reynolds and Hudson, Emily and Anna, Katie and Claire, and Morgan, Lindsey, and Alexander; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Pastor Thomas Hudson Cross Jr. on the occasion of his retirement after 45 years of service, and we thank him for many years of leading his flocks with love and dignity; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Pastor Cross as an expression of our esteem and with best wishes for a relaxing retirement.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1000

Offered by Representative Munson:

WHEREAS, The Gifford Park Association's (GPA) Annual Elgin Historic House Tour is celebrating its 25th year; the tour is scheduled for September 9 and 10, 2006; and

WHEREAS, The tour is an interior and exterior walking review of the historically and architecturally significant homes in Elgin; typically held on the first or second weekend of September, nine or ten homes are selected and shown on the tour; a different section of Elgin is featured each year; and

WHEREAS, Participants in the tour view the interior and exterior of the homes; docents guide the guests through the houses, pointing out features of architectural and historical significance; and

WHEREAS, The Gifford Park Association was founded in 1979 by neighbors and friends to improve the quality and historic integrity of the Gifford Park neighborhood; as a not-for-profit organization, it is dedicated to promoting and encouraging the preservation of all historical districts in Elgin, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Based in Elgin's original historic district, one of the GPA's main goals is to improve the quality of neighborhood life by preserving the historical integrity of the homes in the neighborhood; one of many strategies the GPA uses to spark change is to transform a distressed property in a prominent part of the neighborhood where housing improvement is needed; since 1985, the GPA has used the proceeds from the Annual Historic House Tour, City of Elgin grant programs, and bank loans to purchase, rehab, and restore problem properties to single family use; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Gifford Park Association on the occasion of its 25th annual Historic Elgin House Tour; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Gifford Park Association as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1001

Offered by Representative Ramey:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives learned with regret of the death of Thomas J. Merrion on December 5, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merrion was involved in and coordinated a number of civic, religious, and social activities; and

WHEREAS, He began serving on the West Chicago City Council to represent residents of the Third Ward in 1987; and

WHEREAS, While an alderman, Mr. Merrion was involved in a number of landmark decisions that shaped the future of the City of West Chicago, including the decision to construct a water treatment plant as well as the creation of a downtown TIF District to spur redevelopment efforts; and

WHEREAS, He served 14 years on the West Chicago City Council; and

WHEREAS, When he was not serving as an alderman or working as a right-of-way agent for the DuPage County Division of Transportation, where he retired after 20 years of service, he was active in Boy Scout Troop 615, serving in many capacities since 1991, the last ten years as Scoutmaster; and

WHEREAS, Whether it was taking the scouts on the Grant Pilgrimage in Galena or to summer camp in Oxford, Mr. Merrion was instrumental in helping the children in his troop learn life skills and become more civic-minded community members; and

WHEREAS, He was active in other community organizations including Vietnow, West Chicago Clean and Proud, the Railroad Days Committee, and the Thorium Action Group; and

WHEREAS, After retiring from DuPage County, Mr. Merrion served as a substitute high school teacher, continuing his commitment to enriching the lives and minds of children; and

WHEREAS, He left behind the legacy of a wonderful man who was committed to his family, his community, and his country, and who has been and will continue to be an inspiration to all who have known him; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Thomas J. Merrion, and we extend our sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to his family as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1002

Offered by Representative Kelly:

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge honorably served his country in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was discharged at 10:00 p.m. on December 9, 1945; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge started his career as a professional educator in LeRoy in 1949 as an Industrial Arts and Driver's Education Teacher; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge was an educator at Rich Township High School for 32 years where he taught Drafting, Pre-engineering Drafting, Architectural Drafting, Woodworking, Auto Mechanics, Home Repair, and Electricity; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge was an IEA activist in his local association including being president of his association; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge was an activist within the Illinois Education Association including service as Regional Chairperson and a member of the IEA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge retired in 1987 and immediately recognized the need for a Retired Program within the Illinois Education Association; and

WHEREAS, upon retirement in 1987, Keith began working with the IEA to foster the beginnings of an IEA-Retired program; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge was instrumental in helping to pass a New Business Item at the 1989 IEA Representative Assembly authorizing the formation of a Committee to develop the IEA-Retired Program; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge has served as an elected member of the IEA-Retired Council since its creation on July 15, 1994; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge was the 1997 recipient of the Annual Mary Lou and Keith Hauge Award to recognize those IEA-Retired members who have made significant contributions to the IEA-Retired Program; and

WHEREAS, Keith Hauge has been an IEA-NEA member for 57 years; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Mr. Keith Hauge for his significant commitment to public education in Illinois and for his 57 years of devoted service to the Illinois Education Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Keith Hauge as an expression of our admiration and esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1003

Offered by Representative Myers:

WHEREAS, It is the privilege of this Body to recognize milestone events in the history of businesses in our great State; and

WHEREAS, In the 1800s, there were ten family-owned potteries within miles of Monmouth, known as "Maple City" at the time; in 1906, these ten families were brought together to form the Western Stoneware Company and the maple leaf, which remains the company trademark today, identified the location; and

WHEREAS, The success of Western Stoneware Company is due, in large part, to the high quality clay available in Colchester; stoneware made from this unusual clay is oven-resistant, provides superior retention of heat or cold, and is lead-free, making it completely safe for use with all foods and drinks; the company owns and operates its own clay mines in Colchester; the clay mined there, one of Illinois' rich resources, is unique to the area and offers the best raw material available for high quality, natural stoneware; and

WHEREAS, Stoneware became popular in Europe during the Middle Ages, because it was the best thing for serving the strong drinks and corrosively spiced food consumed in those days; when families immigrated from Colchester, England, to the Midwest in the 1800s, they found the ample supply of quality clay to be ripe for mining, and the labor market ready in Monmouth for processing, and thus began the Western Stoneware tradition; and

WHEREAS, The popularity of stoneware continues today, because it adds charm and warmth to any home; the bold, rough-hewn nature of stoneware combines with other natural materials and imparts a feeling of great strength; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Western Stoneware Company on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Western Stoneware Company as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1007

Offered by Representative Brady:

WHEREAS, The Epiphany School Lady Knights seventh grade girls basketball team of Normal recently won the IESA 7A State Championship; and

WHEREAS, The Lady Knights finished a stellar season with a record of 27 wins and no losses; they were the Epiphany Columbus Day Tournament Champions; and

WHEREAS, They were the Sangamon Valley Conference regular season and tournament champions; they went on to win at the regional and sectional level as well; and

WHEREAS, The team is led by head coach Greg Reinhart and assistant coach Dave Schmitt; the statistician is Catie Whalen; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Lady Knights are Allie Norton, Lindsay Stopa, Rachel Nolan, Emily Beoletto, Mia Hartung, Ellen Walters, Jess Reinhart, Amanda Hess, and Chelsea Turner; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Lady Knights on an outstanding season and on winning the IESA 7A State Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each of the members and coaches of the Lady Knights and to Epiphany School as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1008

Offered by Representative Brady:

WHEREAS, The Epiphany School Lady Knights eighth grade girls basketball team of Normal recently placed third in the IESA 8A State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, The Lady Knights finished the season with an excellent record of 24 wins and 3 losses and a home record of 12 wins and no losses; they were the Epiphany Columbus Day Tournament Champions; and

WHEREAS, They were the Sangamon Valley Conference regular season champions and placed second at the Sangamon Valley Conference tournament; they went on to win at the regional and sectional level; and

WHEREAS, The team is led by head coach Dave Schmitt and assistant coach Greg Reinhart; the statistician is Zoe Myers, and the manager is Jordan Weth; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Lady Knights are Chelsea Collins, Haley Cook, Kristina Mlincsek,

Jamie Baldwin, Carly Norton, Cristin Neill, Jennifer Baldwin, Maggie Blaney, and Julie Schmitt; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Lady Knights on an excellent season and on placing third in the IESA 8A State Tournament; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each of the members and coaches of the Lady Knights and to Epiphany School as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1009

Offered by Representative Hannig:

WHEREAS, The Hillsboro High School Lady Hiltoppers girls basketball team won the IHSA Class A State Championship on Saturday, February 25, 2006, at Illinois State University Redbird Arena; and

WHEREAS, The team defeated Okawville in an exciting game with a score of 44 to 43; they finished the season with a record of 31 wins and 4 losses; and

WHEREAS, Leading the Hillsboro team are head coach Bret Tuetken and assistant coach Shonda Ronen; the team also had the support of Gary Zerrusen, principal, and Terry Trader, athletic director; and

WHEREAS, The members of the team are Brooke Beeler, Mallory Zimmerman, Lauren Daniels, Alex Ginos, Ashley Wallace, Sarah Puckett, Stacie Liebscher, Hope Schulte, Blair Cullison, Jenna Young, Katie Homa, Maria Pretnar, and Shan Liddell; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Hillsboro High School Lady Hiltoppers girls basketball team on an excellent season and on winning the IHSA Class A State Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each member and coach of the Lady Hiltoppers and to Hillsboro High School as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1010

Offered by Representative Krause:

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner graduated from Northwestern University with a major in biology and started his teaching career in 1955 at Maine Township High School; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Wagner was a professional educator for 37 years until his retirement in 1992, at which time he was an advanced placement biology teacher; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner was a member of the National Association of Biology Teachers and a founder of the Northern Illinois Association of Biology Teachers; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner was instrumental in helping the Maine Teachers organize as part of the Illinois Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner was a leader for many years within his local association; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner was an activist within the Illinois Education Association, including service on his Regional Council and as a delegate to many IEA and NEA Representative Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner has served as an elected member of the IEA-Retired Council since its creation on July 15, 1994; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner has served as the Chairperson of the Illinois Education Association-Retired for nine years, from April 15, 1997, through June 30, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner has been member of the IEA Board of Directors since April 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner was the 2000 recipient of the Annual Mary Lou and Keith Hauge Award, which recognizes those IEA-Retired members who have made significant contributions to the IEA-Retired Program; and

WHEREAS, Frederick G. Wagner has been an IEA-NEA member for 47 years; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Mr. Frederick G. Wagner for his

significant commitment to public education in Illinois and for his 47 years of devoted service to the Illinois Education Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Frederick G. Wagner as an expression of our admiration and esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1011

Offered by Representative Black:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of Joe D. Montgomery of Danville on Wednesday, March 8, 2006; and

WHEREAS, He was born on September 17, 1932, in Tilton to Charles and Bessie Young Montgomery; he married Betty N. Ingram on July 25, 1958, in Danville; and

WHEREAS, He retired from the State of Illinois Central Management Division and later worked as a realtor with First Reality in Danville; he was a member of the Catlin Church of Christ and served as Republican County Chairman for ten years; he enjoyed politics; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Joe D. Montgomery has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Betty; his son, Tony (Valerie) Montgomery; his brother, Charles (Betty) Montgomery; and his grandchildren, Kimberly, Amy, and Annie Montgomery; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Joe D. Montgomery, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to his family as an expression of our sincerest condolences.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1012

Offered by Representative Parke:

WHEREAS, Thomas Menzel resigned from his position as City Treasurer of Rolling Meadows on February 26, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Menzel came to the Chicago area in 1968 to teach at Prospect High School, after completing his college degree at Western Michigan University; he moved to Rolling Meadows in 1972; in 1974, he started his political career as a commissioner on the Salt Creek Rural Park District Board; Mr. Menzel went on to serve 19 years as alderman before winning election as Mayor by nearly a 2-1 margin in 1995; he was easily re-elected to a second 4-year term in 1999 and then appointed City Treasurer after leaving the Mayor's office in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Menzel started his business career in the public affairs department of Allstate Insurance Company in 1970; he held management positions with Xerox Learning Systems and McGraw Hill Training Systems and consulted with many other business organizations; he earned an MBA with honors from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Menzel helped set the course for Rolling Meadows, from reshaping the economic development committee to making the city more business-friendly; and

WHEREAS, After serving Rolling Meadows for 30 years, Mr. Menzel is moving back to his hometown of Traverse City, Michigan, where he will assume the position of Executive Director of the National Cherry Festival; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Thomas Menzel on the occasion of his resignation as City Treasurer of Rolling Meadows for his many years of service to the citizens of Rolling Meadows, and we wish him success in his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Thomas Menzel as an expression of our respect and esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1013

Offered by Representative Parke:

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels was created 33 years ago under the federal Older Americans Act, signed into law on July 14, 1965, by President Lyndon B. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, To mark the 33rd anniversary of Meals on Wheels, the Senior Advisory Council and Community Nutrition Network, Inc., of Schaumburg are participating in the national March for Meals campaign; March for Meals is a nationwide initiative to end senior hunger, sponsored by the Meals on Wheels Association of America; and

WHEREAS, Despite the success of the Meals on Wheels program, literally hundreds of thousands of senior citizens still go to bed hungry each night in this country, and four out of ten Meals on Wheels programs have waiting lists; and

WHEREAS, During the month of March, people all over the country are encouraged to participate in the Meals on Wheels program by volunteering or contributing financially; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the 33rd anniversary of the creation of Meals on Wheels, and we encourage the citizens of Illinois to support this worthy program either financially or by volunteering; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Senior Advisory Council and Community Nutrition Network, Inc., of Schaumburg as an expression of our gratitude for the important service they provide to our senior citizens.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1014

Offered by Representative Coulson:

WHEREAS, The Niles North High School chess team recently won its first IHSA State Chess Championship; and

WHEREAS, The team went into the Peoria tournament as top seed in a field of 123 teams from across the State; the 12-student team battled through seven rounds of competition; and

WHEREAS, Each round consisted of eight individual games played by members, with point values assigned based on the level of difficulty each board represented; and

WHEREAS, Two team members, Ilan Meerovich and Ben Rothschild, were named Illinois Chess Association Warren Scholars, a program honoring players for reaching top echelons of play nationally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Meerovich, Mr. Rothschild, Jeff Paykin, Joseph Lui, Rahesh Patel, Ninoshka Fernandes, Mike Thariath, Alex Zatvornitsky, Igor Fortel, Oscar Miranda, and Matthew Castillon were honored for the win by the Niles Township High School District Board during its regular meeting; coaches Harry Kyriazes, Heather Ingraham, and John Krestos were also honored; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the Niles North High School chess team on winning its first IHSA State Chess Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each of the coaches and members of the team as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1015

Offered by Representative Parke:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate Tom Rivera on being inducted into the Illinois Tourism Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rivera has worked for 22 years in the tourism industry, and in his position as president of the Greater Woodfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, he has helped to generate \$50 million a year in tourism revenue for the 12-community area it serves; and

WHEREAS, Most recently, his tenure has seen the opening of a Schaumburg convention center and a

Hoffman Estates sports arena; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rivera was among four retiring leaders to be inducted into the new Illinois Tourism Hall of Fame during the recent Illinois Governor's Conference on Tourism in Springfield; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Tom Rivera on being inducted into the Illinois Tourism Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Rivera as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1016

Offered by Representative Parke:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate the citizens of Schaumburg on the occasion of the village's fiftieth anniversary; and

WHEREAS, When it was incorporated in 1956, there were just 130 residents; today, Schaumburg boasts 75,500 people as well as countless businesses big and small; and

WHEREAS, A special event marking the village's half-century was held in the theater of the Prairie Center for the Arts on Tuesday, March 7, 2006; the night included a multi-media presentation on the village's entire history, researched and prepared by a team of 14 Schaumburg High School students; a witty and whimsical English-style ballad featuring the village, written and recorded by Dan Marcotte; an interview with three figures from the village's past, LaVonne Presley, Jack Siegel, and Russ Parker; and the evening ended with birthday cake and a champagne toast for all who attended; Mayor Al Larson served as host for the many festivities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the citizens of Schaumburg on the occasion of the village's fiftieth anniversary, and we wish them a peaceful and prosperous future; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Village of Schaumburg as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1017

Offered by Representative Munson:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate Betty Brown of Elgin on being chosen to be interviewed by The History Makers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown will be the only person from the Northwest suburbs of Chicago to join the 1,200 African Americans from across the United States who have sat down for video interviews with The History Makers; others that have been interviewed include Senator Barack Obama, Dionne Warwick, and the late Ebony publisher, John H. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, The History Makers holds the nation's largest collection of African-American oral histories; based on nominations, it chooses African-American people to interview from all fields, including medicine, media, and politics; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown moved to Elgin with her family when she was six years old; she went on to become the first African-American nurse at St. Joseph Hospital, and she worked as a nursing supervisor for 15 years; following nursing, she became a consultant with a major cosmetics company and was selected by Miglin & Associates for the "Women of Destiny" program, which led to her involvement in the fashion world; she was a member of The Fashion Group International, Inc., of Chicago and became an advocate for peace across the world as a board member; and

WHEREAS, In the 1990s, she covered the society beat for North Shore Magazine, and she has written society news for both the Daily Herald and Courier News; through her work, she's interviewed many celebrities, including Sidney Poitier and Jay Leno; and

WHEREAS, She was the first African-American recipient of the Altrusa Club's Woman of the Year Award for outstanding service for improvement and welfare of the community; she was also the first

African-American woman to have her own radio talk show on WRMN 1410-AM and for years worked as a manager for the Miss Illinois Pageant, for which she was featured in Newsweek magazine as mentor of the year; she has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades and serves on the boards of various civic and charitable organizations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Betty Brown of Elgin on being chosen to be interviewed by The History Makers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Brown as an expression of our deep respect and esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1018

Offered by Representative Granberg:

WHEREAS, Kirk Rueter of Hoyleton has announced his retirement from major league baseball, ending a 13-year major league career; and

WHEREAS, During his career, he became the winningest left-handed pitcher in San Francisco Giants history; he came to the Giants from the Montreal Expos in a 1996 trade; he had joined the Expos in 1993, beginning his major league career with an impressive 8-0 mark that was the best to start a career since 1904; and

WHEREAS, Over 13 seasons with the Expos and Giants he went 130-92 with a 4.27 ERA and became the first Giants lefty since Carl Hubbell to win at least ten games in seven consecutive seasons; he had a 13-6 record with a 3.45 ERA for the NL West champion Giants in 1997; he finished a career-best 16-9 in 1998; and he went 13-8 with a 3.23 ERA for the 2002 pennant winners, including a victory over St. Louis in the National League Championship Series; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rueter, known in the clubhouse as "Woody", finished his career with no major injuries and 38 games over .500; he had pinpoint control over the ball and a fearlessness that impressed teammates and opponents; the Giants will host a day in his honor at a game this season; and

WHEREAS, He played American Legion baseball for George M. Nelms Post 446 of Centralia and helped the team reach the State tournament in 1988 after being Most Valuable Player of the Fifth Division Tourney; he pitched for Murray State University and was drafted after his junior year in the 18th round, following a season with a record of 11-2; and

WHEREAS, He is a 1988 graduate of Nashville Community High School in Nashville, Illinois; during his retirement, he plans to focus on his wife, Karla, and his daughters, Hope and Halle; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Kirk Rueter on the occasion of his retirement, and we honor him for a stellar career in major league baseball; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to him as an expression of our esteem.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1019

Offered by Representative Phelps:

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of Jerry Russell Simmons on Friday, February 24, 2006; and

WHEREAS, He was born on June 21, 1926, in Grantsburg, the son of Oliver Simmons & Laura (Deasel) Simmons; he attended Grantsburg School from 1932 to 1940, obtained his GED, and attended Aurora College in Aurora, where he received his degree in business management; and

WHEREAS, He valiantly served his country as a member of the U.S. Army during World War II in the Pacific Theater as a 155 Howitzer Cannoneer and in the army of occupation in Japan; he received several medals, including the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Army of Occupation Medal - Japan; he received an honorable discharge on November 17, 1946; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Simmons married Jane (Sanders) on November 25, 1948, in Piggott, Arkansas; he received his privet pilot license for single engine planes on November 29, 1949; he was employed for 21

years at All Steel Equipment in Aurora from 1953 to 1974; he started as a machine operator and was promoted to foreman and General Foreman before leaving in 1974; and

WHEREAS, He moved to Vienna, Illinois, where he owned and operated a small business, Simmons Home Furnishings, from 1974 until 1992; he was elected Johnson County Clerk and Recorder in December of 1986 and served in that office until his retirement on November 30, 1994; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the County Line Baptist Church in the Flatwoods community and was a faithful member of the New Columbia Masonic Lodge #336 AF&AM at Ganntown for over 53 years; he was an avid fisherman and enjoyed gardening, bowling, and collecting and repairing antique clocks; he was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and an active member of the Johnson County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Jerry Russell Simmons has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Jane; his daughter, Terri McKenzie, and her husband Nick; his grandchildren, Scott and Mindy McKenzie and Sara Jane McKenzie; his great-grandchildren, Sam, C.J., Christopher, Kaitlynn, Aaron, and Angel; his sister-in-Law, Ludean Shoemaker-Simmons; and his many nieces and nephews; he was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Mary Morgan; his brothers, Joe Simmons and Junior Simmons; and his half-sisters, Peggy Arnold and Nell Goodgoin; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Jerry Russell Simmons, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to his family as an expression of our sincerest condolences.

SENATE BILLS ON SECOND READING

Having been printed, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 918, 2271, 2400, 2465, 2711 and 2718.

Having been printed, the following bill was taken up, read by title a second time and held on the order of Second Reading: SENATE BILL 2772.

Having been printed, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2807 and 3062.

SENATE BILL 2302. Having been printed, was taken up and read by title a second time.

The following amendment was offered in the Committee on Consumer Protection, adopted and printed:

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Amend Senate Bill 2302 on page 3, line 3, by replacing "establishes" with "can establish"; and
 on page 3, line 7, by replacing "establishes" with "can establish"; and
 on page 5, by replacing lines 7 and 8 with "standard that is the same as those contained in this Act, and the State Fire"; and
 on page 5, by replacing line 10 with "those requirements have"; and
 on page 7, line 7, after "consist of", by inserting "an"; and
 on page 7, line 7, after "symbolic", by inserting "character or"; and
 on page 7, line 10, after "visible", by inserting "alphanumeric or symbolic character or".

There being no further amendments, the foregoing Amendment No. 1 was adopted and the bill, as amended, was advanced to the order of Third Reading.

Having been printed, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2489, 2165 and 2243.

SENATE BILL 2878. Having been printed, was taken up and read by title a second time.

The following amendment was offered in the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles, adopted and printed:

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Amend Senate Bill 2878 on page 6, by replacing lines 11 through 14 with the following:

"the vehicle."

There being no further amendments, the foregoing Amendment No. 1 was adopted and the bill, as amended, was advanced to the order of Third Reading.

CONCURRENCES AND NON-CONCURRENCES IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS

Senate Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 708, having been printed, was taken up for consideration.

Representative Black moved that the House concur with the Senate in the adoption of Senate Amendment No. 1.

And on that motion, a vote was taken resulting as follows:

110, Yeas; 0, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

(ROLL CALL 2)

The motion prevailed and the House concurred with the Senate in the adoption of Senate Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 708.

Ordered that the Clerk inform the Senate.

SENATE BILLS ON SECOND READING

Having been printed, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2233, 2308 and 2334.

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS 987, 988, 990, 992, 993, 994, 996, 997, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018 and 1019 were taken up for consideration.

Representative Currie moved the adoption of the agreed resolutions.

The motion prevailed and the Agreed Resolutions were adopted.

At the hour of 4:21 o'clock p.m., Representative Currie moved that the House do now adjourn until Wednesday, March 16, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock p.m.

The motion prevailed.

And the House stood adjourned.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
NINETY-FOURTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE ROLL CALL
QUORUM ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

March 15, 2006

0 YEAS

0 NAYS

110 PRESENT

P Acevedo	P Dugan	P Krause	P Pritchard
P Bassi	P Dunkin	P Lang	P Ramey
P Beaubien	P Dunn	P Leitch	P Reis
P Beiser	P Durkin	E Lindner	P Reitz
P Bellock	P Eddy	P Lyons, Joseph	P Rita
P Berrios	P Feigenholtz	P Mathias	P Rose
P Biggins	P Flider	P Mautino	P Ryg
P Black	P Flowers	P May	P Sacia
P Boland	P Franks	P McAuliffe	P Saviano
P Bost	P Fritchey	P McCarthy	P Schmitz
P Bradley, John	P Froehlich	P McGuire	P Schock
E Bradley, Richard	P Giles	P McKeon	P Scully
P Brady	P Golar	P Mendoza	P Smith
P Brauer	P Gordon	E Meyer	P Sommer
P Brosnahan	P Graham	P Miller	P Soto
P Burke	P Granberg	P Mitchell, Bill	P Stephens
P Chapa LaVia	P Hamos	P Mitchell, Jerry	P Sullivan
E Chavez	P Hannig	P Moffitt	P Tenhouse
P Churchill	P Hassert	P Molaro	P Tryon
P Collins	P Hoffman	P Mulligan	P Turner
P Colvin	P Holbrook	P Munson	P Verschoore
P Coulson	P Howard	P Myers	P Wait
P Cross	P Hultgren	P Nekritz	P Washington
P Cultra	P Jakobsson	P Osmond	E Watson
P Currie	P Jefferson	P Osterman	P Winters
P D'Amico	P Jenisch	P Parke	P Yarbrough
P Daniels	E Jones	E Patterson	P Younge
P Davis, Monique	P Joyce	P Phelps	A Mr. Speaker
P Davis, William	P Kelly	P Pihos	
P Delgado	P Kosel	P Poe	

E - Denotes Excused Absence

STATE OF ILLINOIS
NINETY-FOURTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE ROLL CALL
HOUSE BILL 708
VEH CD-HIGHWAY ACCESS
MOTION TO CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENT #1
CONCURRED

March 15, 2006

110 YEAS

0 NAYS

0 PRESENT

Y Acevedo	Y Dugan	Y Krause	Y Pritchard
Y Bassi	Y Dunkin	Y Lang	Y Ramey
Y Beaubien	Y Dunn	Y Leitch	Y Reis
Y Beiser	Y Durkin	E Lindner	Y Reitz
Y Bellock	Y Eddy	Y Lyons, Joseph	Y Rita
Y Berrios	Y Feigenholtz	Y Mathias	Y Rose
Y Biggins	Y Flider	Y Mautino	Y Ryg
Y Black	Y Flowers	Y May	Y Sacia
Y Boland	Y Franks	Y McAuliffe	Y Saviano
Y Bost	Y Fritchey	Y McCarthy	Y Schmitz
Y Bradley, John	Y Froehlich	Y McGuire	Y Schock
E Bradley, Richard	Y Giles	Y McKeon	Y Scully
Y Brady	Y Golar	Y Mendoza	Y Smith
Y Brauer	Y Gordon	E Meyer	Y Sommer
Y Brosnahan	Y Graham	Y Miller	Y Soto
Y Burke	Y Granberg	Y Mitchell, Bill	Y Stephens
Y Chapa LaVia	Y Hamos	Y Mitchell, Jerry	Y Sullivan
E Chavez	Y Hannig	Y Moffitt	Y Tenhouse
Y Churchill	Y Hassert	Y Molaro	Y Tryon
Y Collins	Y Hoffman	Y Mulligan	Y Turner
Y Colvin	Y Holbrook	Y Munson	Y Verschoore
Y Coulson	Y Howard	Y Myers	Y Wait
Y Cross	Y Hultgren	Y Nekritz	Y Washington
Y Cultra	Y Jakobsson	Y Osmond	E Watson
Y Currie	Y Jefferson	Y Osterman	Y Winters
Y D'Amico	Y Jenisch	Y Parke	Y Yarbrough
Y Daniels	E Jones	E Patterson	Y Younge
Y Davis, Monique	Y Joyce	Y Phelps	A Mr. Speaker
Y Davis, William	Y Kelly	Y Pihos	
Y Delgado	Y Kosel	Y Poe	

E - Denotes Excused Absence